

Minutes of the Bloomington Township Board

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. on January 31, 2016, at 2111 W. Vernal Pike.

Board members present were Barbara McKinney, Vic Kelson, and Kim Alexander. Also present were Trustee Lillian Henegar, Deputy Fire Chief Joel Bomgardner, and Deputy Trustee Lisa Myers.

AGENDA

The agenda was decided at the meeting to include reviewing the proposed Fire Territory Agreement, discussion on the public notice, reviewing the tax rates proposed by Umbaugh & Associates, and determining the next steps in the creation of a Fire Territory.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Fire Territory Agreement: Attorney Steve Buschmann is working to create a draft of the territory agreement. Benton Township wants an Executive Board that will ultimately operate the Fire Department. Buschmann states the Board can be structured to have executive responsibilities or only fiscal responsibilities. The Bloomington Township Board agrees that the Executive Board will appoint the Fire Chief, but then the Chief will be responsible for the daily operations of the Fire Territory.

Public Notice: The public notice must be published by February 5, in order to keep the proposed schedule of public hearings. It was agreed that holding a public hearing during Spring Break would be unadvisable.

Proposed Tax Rates: The proposed tax rate was discussed along with how it should be presented to Bloomington Township taxpayers. The rate presented by Umbaugh & Associates includes \$300,000 of County Option Income Tax (COIT) contributed by Bloomington Township, but Benton and Washington Townships will not be allowed to contribute COIT to the Fire Territory. The Bloomington Township Board asked Lillian to acquire confirmation from Benton and Washington Townships that they do want to advertise the proposed tax rate.

Next Steps: Confer with Steve Buschmann to discover what happens to the COIT, Excise Tax, and Vehicle Excise Tax revenues if a Territory is formed. Request Umbaugh & Associates to create scenarios with different tax rates. Lisa will recalculate the proposed budget to show the projected operating costs with 21 full time firefighters instead of 36 full time firefighters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11.

Vic Kelson, Secretary